

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ALEXAN 00767 012017Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-05
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FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1065
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INFO USLO RIYADH IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS ALEXANDRIA 767

DEPT FOR NEA/P, PASS NSC FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI AND WHITE HOUSE
FOR MR. POWELL

USIS FOR IOP/M

E.O.11652: N/A
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION

1. ALL THREE MAJOR NEWSPAPERS GAVE FRONTPAGE HEADLINES TO PRESIDENT
SADAT'S JULY 18 INTERVIEW WITH CBS NEWS, PREVIOUSLY EMBARGOED AND
RELEASED YESTERDAY AND PROVIDED A TRANSLATION OF THE COMPLETE
TRANSCRIPT OF THE INTERVIEW, WHICH CENTERED ON THE MIDDLE EAST
PEACE PROCESS. TELEVISION AND RADIO BROADCASTS
OF JULY 31 GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO THE SADAT INTERVIEW
AND TO SECRETARY VANCE'S VISIT TO THE MIDDLE EAST. THE FULL
TRANSCRIPT
TRANSLATION OF THE INTERVIEW WAS READ ON RADIO CAIRO AND RADIO
SAWTAL-ARAB (VOICE OF THE ARAB). ALL THREE NEWSPAPERS RAN FRONTPAGE
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STORIES ON EGYPTIAN AND AMERICAN PREPARATIONS FOR VANCE'S VISIT.
AL-AHRAM REPORTED PRESIDENT CARTERS STATEMENT ON GENEVA PRIOR TO
VANCE'S DEPARTURE.

2. IN THE CBS INTERVIEWN SADAT SAID THAT, NOW THAT CARTER HAS MET
WITH BEGIN AND ALL THE ARAB LEADERS, THE US SHOULD BE ABLE TO COME
UP WITH A FRAMEWORK FOR PEACE ON PAPER AND THAT HE HOPES VANCE WILL

BRING WITH HIM SUCH A FRAMEWORK. HE SAID THAT HE ALSO URGES THE U.S. TO CREATE A TASK FORCE, HEADED BY SECRETARY VANCE, TO PREPARE FOR GENEVA BY CONSULTING ALL CONCERNED PARTIES, INCLUDING THE RUSSIANS. BECAUSE WITHOUT GOOD PREPARATION THE GENEVA CONFERENCE WILL FAIL. AL-AKHBAR REPORTED THAT EGYPTIAN SOURCES HAVE EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE IN THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATIONS ABILITY TO DEVELOP A JUST OUTLOOK ON THE MIDDLE EAST SITUATION. AL-GOMHOURIYA REPORTED THAT A RESPONSIBLE AMERICAN SOURCE SAID YESTERDAY THAT SECRETARY VANCE HAD PRESENTED AMERICAN PROPOSALS FOR RESUMPTION OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE TO THE SOVIET CHARGE D' ADDAIRES IN WASHINGTON, IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT SOVIET UNION WILL CO-CHAIR THE CONFERENCE WITH THE UNITED STATES. THE REPORT ADDED THAT VANCE HAS SAID HE WILL CARRY PROPOSALS ON BOTH BASIC AND PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS RELATED TO MIDDLE EAST PEACE.

3. IN AN EDITORIAL ENTITLED "VANCE AND AMERICAN JUSTICE" AL-AHRAM COMMENTED THAT THE PEOPLE OF THE MIDDLE EAST ASK NOT BIAS TOWARD ON SIDE OR THE OTHER BUT SIMPLY "AMERICAN JUSTICE" AL GOMHOURIYA EDITORIALIZES THAT VANCE IS COMING TO THE MIDDLE EAST WITH SUGGESTIONS AND VIEWS THIS AS "A POSITIVE STEP INDICATING THAT THE U.S. IS READY TO PLAY A VITAL ROLE RATHER THAN THE PART OF A MEDIATOR THAT CARRIES AROUND VIEWPOINTS".
CHASE

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